

## Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 USIA-15 /030 W

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R 200045Z JUN 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5524

UNCLAS HONG KONG 6901

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, HK

SUBJECT: EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE - HONG KONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' UNION  
PROJECT

WE WISH TO ALERT CU TO A SPECIAL PROJECT INVOLVING HONG KONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' UNION (HKUSU) AND FOR WHICH POST MAY BE ASKING FOR SOME ASSISTANCE.

EACH SUMMER HKUSU HAS BEEN SENDING STUDENTS TO ASIAN COUNTRIES TO OBSERVE UNIVERSITY EDUCATIONAL PRACTICES AND MEET FACULTY AND STUDENTS. THIS YEAR THEY ALSO WISH TO SEND EIGHT STUDENTS TO THE WEST COAST OF US FOR 20 DAYS OF VISITATIONS TO UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES. THE VICE-CHANCELLOR AND DEAN OF STUDENTS, HKU, HAVE INDICATED IN WRITING THAT THEY SUPPORT PROJECT AND LATTER'S OFFICE THROUGH ITS GRANTS TO STUDENT SOCIETIES IS PROVIDING LIMITED FINANCIAL SUPPORT. BUT MOST OF MONEY MUST BE RAISED BY HKUSU AND THE STUDENTS SELECTED. THEY ARE IN MIDST OF FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN AND PRIOR TO APPROACHING THE CONSULATE GENERAL AT SUGGESTION OF DEAN OF STUDENTS, HAD WRITTEN TO SEVERAL UNIVERSITIES AND NOW HAVE SOME ENCOURAGING REPLIES.

THE EIGHT STUDENTS SELECTED FOR THE U.S. TRIP WERE CHOSEN FROM EIGHT DEPARTMENTS. THE STUDENTS ARE SERIOUS MINDED AND HAVE INDICATED THEY WOULD LIKE TO SPEND DAY-TIME HOURS WITH FACULTY MEMBERS BUT WOULD BE HAPPY TO MEET STUDENTS IN EVENINGS. INTERESTS INCLUDE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM, TEACHING METHODS AND AIDS, CURRICULUM, TEXTBOOKS, EXAMINATIONS, RESEARCH, LIFE OF STUDENTS AND FACULTY-STUDENT RELATIONS.

POST CONSIDERS PROJECT TO BE EXCELLENT; THE STUDENTS HAVE TAKEN THE INITIATIVE, ARE RAISING FUNDS AND PROJECT PROVIDES THE POST WITH ANOTHER ENTREE INTO HKU AND THE STUDENT UNION, NEITHER OF WHICH HAS HAD VERY CLOSE RELATIONS WITH CONSULATE GENERAL OR

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U.S. ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS.

STUDENTS PLAN TO USE CHARTER FLIGHTS AND BUSES FOR TRANSPORTATION AND ARE HOPING TO LIVE ON CAMPUSES OR RECEIVE HOME HOSPITALITY. AS FOR THE LATTER THEY ALREADY HAVE HOME HOSPITALITY FOR LONG BEACH; ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, DR. ALAN JOHNSON, INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CENTER, CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH, MET WITH THE STUDENTS WHILE IN HONG KONG, WAS VERY IMPRESSED AND SAID HE COULD ARRANGE HOME STAYS FOR GROUP IN LONG BEACH.

POST HAS NOT PROMISED ANY FINANCIAL SUPPORT, BUT USIS HAS PROVIDED 1,000 COPIES USIS-SUPPORTED TRANSLATIONS FOR SALE THROUGH UNIVERSITY BOOK STORE WHICH IS RUN BY HKUSU. THE REPRESENTATIVE ACCEPTING THE BOOKS URGED US TO INCLUDE GOOD REPRESENTATION OF BOOKS ON POLITICS SINCE STUDENTS BECOMING INCREASINGLY INTERESTED THIS FIELD.

ALTHOUGH POST ALREADY QUITE HEAVILY COMMITTED FOR FY-76 GRANTS, IF RELATIVELY SMALL AMOUNT OF MONEY WERE TO MEAN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GOING AND NOT GOING, WE MAY REQUEST SOME SUPPORT AND FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE FROM CU.

IN ADDITION TO CONTACT WITH DR. ALAN JOHNSON (SEE ABOVE) THE STUDENTS, IN RESPONSE TO THEIR LETTER TO PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY, HAVE RECEIVED A VERY ENCOURAGING REPLY FROM MRS. A.W. CHILTON, FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL, PORTLAND. HAVE ALSO WRITTEN TO AND RECEIVED REPLIES FROM WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY,

PULLMAN; UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY; UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,

LOS ANGELES; STANDFORD UNIVERSITY; AND CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES.

A COPY OF CORRESPONDENCE ON THIS PROJECT BEING FORWARDED. WILL APPRECIATE CU'S COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 OCT 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06 OCT 2003 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <12 JAN 2004 by greeneet>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE - HONG KONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' UNION PROJECT  
**TAGS:** OEXC, HK  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006